



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/598,270 06/21/00 SHIMIZU

T 106558

EXAMINER

PM82/1001

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P.O. BOX 19928
ALEXANDRIA VA 22320

DONNELLY, A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3661

DATE MAILED:

10/01/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/598,270

Applicant(s)
Toshihiro Shimizu et al.

Examiner
Arthur Donnelly

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3661



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Jun 21, 2000

2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-86 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☒ Claim(s) 57-65 and 79-86 is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, 7-12, 14-18, 20-27, 29-35, 42, 43, 45, 51, 53-56, 66-76, and 78 is/are rejected.

7) ☒ Claim(s) 3-6, 13, 19, 28, 36-41, 44, 46-50, 52, and 77 is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.

12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

13) ☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:

1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

15) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____

16) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

17) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). 3 & 4

20) ☐ Other: _____

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371© of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

2. Claims 1, 2, 7-12, 14-18, 20-27, 29-35, 42, 43, 45, 51, 53-56, 66-76, and 78 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Shimizu (5,945,799).

Shimizu discloses a vehicle drive assist system comprising a camera for picking up an image of an area existing in an advancing direction of a vehicle, a display means for displaying the image picked up by the camera, a steering angle detecting means for detecting a steering angle for steering a vehicle, a traveling path predicting means for predicting a traveling path of the vehicle on the basis of the steering angle detected by the steering angle detecting means and a drive assist means for overlaying on the display means drive assist information containing the vehicle predictive traveling path predicted by the traveling path predicting means and guide lines prolonged from the lines defining the width of the vehicle body on the image of the area existing in the vehicle advancing direction (Column 3 lines 1-20 and Column 4 lines 6-22); wherein the drive assist means displays the guide lines of the vehicle at a position on the predictive traveling

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path (Column 4 lines 6-22); a drive assist means for switching drive assist information for parking overlaid on the image displayed by the display means between the drive assist information of a normal parking mode and that of a series of parking mode (Column 3 lines 21-40).

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 3-6, 13, 19, 28, 36-41, 44, 46-50, 52, and 77 objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

4. Claim 57-65 and 79-86 allowed. The prior art of record fails to show or teach a display means that displays an image of the forward area of the vehicle and in a backward running where the display means displays more brightly an image of the backward area than an image of the forward area and a timer for counting a predetermined time for detecting a target parking position on the basis of the image picked up by the camera and judging a timing to reversely turn a steering wheel by an amount of turn of the steering wheel necessary to move the vehicle to the target parking position.


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Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Arthur Donnelly whose telephone number is (703) 305-0215. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday -Thursday on the first and third weeks of the month and from Monday - Friday on the second and forth weeks of the month from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William A. Chuchlinski Jr., can be reached on (703) 308-3873. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 305-7687.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1113.


WILLIAM A. CUCHLINSKI, JR.
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600

add

September 26, 2001